

PCT

WORLD INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ORGANIZATION
International Bureau

INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(51) International Patent Classification ⁶ : C11D 3/16, 1/66		(11) International Publication Number: WO 97/32957
(21) International Application Number: PCT/US97/02879 (22) International Filing Date: 26 February 1997 (26.02.97) (30) Priority Data: 9604623.0 4 March 1996 (04.03.96) GB (71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): S.C. JOHNSON & SON, INC. [US/US]; 1525 Howe Street, Racine, WI 53403-5226 (US). (72) Inventor; and (75) Inventor/Applicant (for US only): NORMAN, Clare, Louise [GB/GB]; 19 Mullens Road, Egham, Surrey TW20 8AG (GB). (74) Agents: BOZEK, Laura, L. et al.; S.C. Johnson & Son, Inc., Patent Section, 1525 Howe Street, Racine, WI 53403 (US).		(43) International Publication Date: 12 September 1997 (12.09.97) (81) Designated States: AU, CA, JP, KR, NZ, US, European patent (AT, BE, CH, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE). Published <i>With international search report. Before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of the receipt of amendments.</i>
(54) Title: STABLE AQUEOUS SILANE SOLUTIONS FOR CLEANING HARD SURFACES		
(57) Abstract <p>A stable aqueous solution for a hard-surface cleaning detergent comprising a saccharide selected from an alkylsaccharide and an alkenyl-saccharide and an organosilane, wherein said organosilane has at least one hydrolyzable group.</p>		

FOR THE PURPOSES OF INFORMATION ONLY

Codes used to identify States party to the PCT on the front pages of pamphlets publishing international applications under the PCT.

AM	Armenia	GB	United Kingdom	MW	Malawi
AT	Austria	GE	Georgia	MX	Mexico
AU	Australia	GN	Guinea	NE	Niger
BB	Barbados	GR	Greece	NL	Netherlands
BE	Belgium	HU	Hungary	NO	Norway
BF	Burkina Faso	IE	Ireland	NZ	New Zealand
BG	Bulgaria	IT	Italy	PL	Poland
BJ	Benin	JP	Japan	PT	Portugal
BR	Brazil	KE	Kenya	RO	Romania
BY	Belarus	KG	Kyrgyzstan	RU	Russian Federation
CA	Canada	KP	Democratic People's Republic of Korea	SD	Sudan
CF	Central African Republic	KR	Republic of Korea	SE	Sweden
CG	Congo	KZ	Kazakhstan	SG	Singapore
CH	Switzerland	LI	Liechtenstein	SI	Slovenia
CI	Côte d'Ivoire	LK	Sri Lanka	SK	Slovakia
CM	Cameroon	LR	Liberia	SN	Senegal
CN	China	LT	Lithuania	SZ	Swaziland
CS	Czechoslovakia	LU	Luxembourg	TD	Chad
CZ	Czech Republic	LV	Latvia	TG	Togo
DE	Germany	MC	Monaco	TJ	Tajikistan
DK	Denmark	MD	Republic of Moldova	TT	Trinidad and Tobago
EE	Estonia	MG	Madagascar	UA	Ukraine
ES	Spain	ML	Mali	UG	Uganda
FI	Finland	MN	Mongolia	US	United States of America
FR	France	MR	Mauritania	UZ	Uzbekistan
GA	Gabon			VN	Viet Nam

STABLE AQUEOUS SILANE SOLUTIONS FOR CLEANING HARD SURFACES

5 This invention relates to a method of stabilizing aqueous organosilane/fluoroorganosilane solutions containing silicon bonded hydrolysable groups.

Background Art

10 Aqueous organo/fluoroorganosilanes solutions containing silicon bonded hydrolysable groups have several uses. The hydrolysable groups enable such compounds to irreversibly attach themselves to substrates containing hydroxyl or other silicone reactive species.

15 The significance of this 'tethering' action, in this instance, is to retard re-soiling, impart shine and make easier to clean a variety of bathroom surfaces such as enamel, plastic and porcelain, also giving residual antimicrobial/algicidal activity.

It is desirable that the 'tethering' agent is delivered via a predominately aqueous media with minimal solvent content.

Summary of the Invention

20 Studies undertaken by the present inventor in order to accomplish the above purpose revealed that the use of one or more non-ionic surface active agents, one of which should be an alkyl saccharide, together with a silane derivative produced an improved detergent composition which helps to prevent re-soiling, gives residual antimicrobial/algicidal properties and residual
25 'Shine' characteristics. Accordingly, in one embodiment the subject invention provides a solution as defined in claim 1 comprising an alkyl saccharide surface active agent and a silane derivative, and in another embodiment the subject invention is directed to use of said alkyl saccharide in storage stable compositions.

30 Hard surface cleaning can be achieved with the composition of the subject invention in the absence of water soluble organic quaternary ammonium compounds contrary to the disclosure in a previously published patent US-A-5,411,585. The composition, instead, stabilizes the organosilane/fluoroorganosilane by the use of saccharides sometimes with an additional non-ionic

co-surfactant. For environmental reasons the absence of ammonium quaternary compounds is desired.

Other and further objects, features and advantages of the invention will appear more fully from the following description.

5

Detailed Description

All amounts given herein (in the absence of a statement of the contrary) are given as amounts by weight of the total amount of the aqueous solution of the subject invention.

10 Organosilanes which can be used in the invention are disclosed in reference US-A-5,411,585.

The organosilanes having hydrolysable groups which are useful in this invention form clear solutions in water at room temperature (20°C) at least to the extent of the active concentration level to be used in the aqueous solutions. Examples of such organosilanes are
15 methyltrimethoxysilane, 3-(trimethoxysilyl)propyldimethyl-octadecyl ammonium chloride and 3-(trimethoxysilyl)propyl-methyldi(decyl)ammonium chloride. We have found that compounds which do not give clear solutions in water at 20°C, such as 3-(triethoxysilyl)propoyldimethyloctadecyl ammonium chloride are not useful in the present invention.

20 As mentioned above, the aqueous organosilane/fluoroorganosilane solutions of the subject invention are stable solutions. Stable solutions are clear solutions which do not show haze.

Preferably said solutions are storage stable, i.e. said solutions are clear and non-hazy after storage.

More preferably said storage stable solutions are clear and non-hazy after storage at room
25 temperature (20°C) for 6 months, even more preferably after such storage for 1 year.

Preferably said organosilanes have structural formula



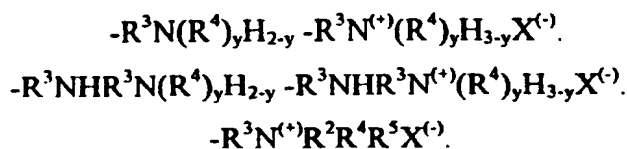
wherein each

- 30 A is -OH or a hydrolysable group,
B is an alkyl group of from 1 to 4 carbon atoms,
x has a value of 0, 1 or 2, and

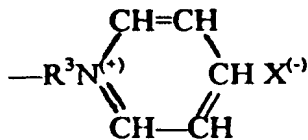
D is a hydrocarbon group of from 1 to 4 carbon atoms, a fluoro substituted (otherwise substituted or unsubstituted) hydrocarbon group, phenyl, or a nonionic or cationic, substituted-hydrocarbon group containing at least one oxygen or nitrogen group or salts of such substituted-hydrocarbon groups.

5 In the above formulas, A is -OH or a hydrolysable group such as a halide like -Cl, -Br and -I, alkoxy or alkoxyether such as those of the formula -OR¹ and -OR^{2A}OR¹ where each R¹ is R² or hydrogen, R² is an alkyl group of from 1 to 4 carbon atoms such as methyl, ethyl, propyl, butyl or -CH₂CH₂CH₂(CH₃), with methyl being preferred, and R^{2A} is a divalent saturated hydrocarbon group of from 1 to 4 carbon atoms such as methylene, ethylene, propylene, butylene
10 or -CH₂CH₂CH(CH₃)- with ethylene and propylene being preferred; amino such as -N(R¹)₂ such as -NHCH₃, -N(CH₃)₂ and -N(CH₂CH₂)₂, also including organosilazanes where two organosilanes are combined by a -NH- unit; acetoxy which is -OOCCH₃; acetamido which is -HNOCCH₃; and hydride which is -H, among others known in the art. B is R² with methyl being preferred.

15 D is a hydrocarbon group such as R², vinyl, allyl, phenyl, fluoro substituted (otherwise unsubstituted or substituted) hydrocarbon and nonionic or cationic, substituted-hydrocarbon groups containing at least one oxygen or nitrogen group as well as salts of such substituted-hydrocarbon groups. Examples where D is a fluoro substituted (otherwise unsubstituted or substituted) hydrocarbon group include perfluoroalkylsulphonamide N-G-C₄ alkylene silanes.
20 Examples of the latter substituted-hydrocarbon groups include



25

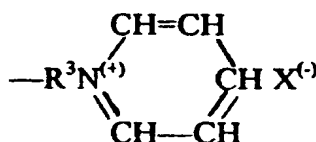


and -R³Q where Q represents a functional group, optionally with further alkyl or aryl chains, such
30 as alcohols and ethers such as -(OCH₂CH₂)_zOR¹ where z has a value of from 0 to about 50, esters or amides such as -COOR⁶, -CONHR⁶, -HNOCR⁶ or -OOCCH(R⁶)₃H₁₋₃CHCH₂ where R⁶ is an alkyl group of 1 to 18 carbon atoms such as methyl, ethyl, butyl, octyl and octadecyl with methyl

being preferred and s is 0 or 1, glycidoxy such as $-\text{OCH}_2\text{CHOCH}_2$ as well as other nonionic or cationic substituted-hydrocarbon groups known in the art. In the above formulas, x has a value of 0, 1 or 2 with values of 0 or 1 being preferred, and with x having a value of 0 being most preferred; y has a value of 0, 1 or 2; R^3 is a divalent saturated hydrocarbon group of from 1 to 12 carbon atoms such as R^{2A} , $-(\text{CH}_2)_6-$, $-(\text{CH}_2)_8-$, and $-(\text{CH}_2)_{12}-$; R^4 and R^5 are each selected from the group consisting of alkyl groups of 1 to 18 carbon atoms, $-\text{CH}_2\text{C}_6\text{H}_5$, $-\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{OH}$ and $-\text{CH}_2\text{OH}$. R^6 is an alkyl group of 1 to 18 carbon atoms. One example of $-\text{R}^3\text{Q}$ is glycidoxypropyl or $-(\text{CH}_2)_3\text{OCH}_2\text{CHOCH}_2$. X is an anion and more preferably, is selected from chloride, bromide, fluoride, iodide, acetate, methosulfate, ethosulfate, phosphate or tosylate anions and most preferably, X is a chloride anion.

In Formula II above, R^4 and R^5 are preferably alkyl groups of from 1 to 18 carbon atoms and more preferably, R^2 is a methyl group with the total number of carbon atoms in R^3 , R^4 and R^5 being at least 12 if antimicrobial properties are desired from the organosilane. In one preferred organosilane of Formula II, R^3 is a propylene, R^2 and R^4 are each methyl groups and R^5 is an octadecyl group while in another alternative preferred organosilane of Formula II, R^2 is a methyl group and R^4 and R^5 are each decyl groups.

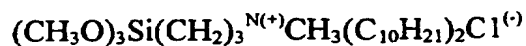
The most preferred compounds for use in the present invention are $(\text{CH}_3\text{O})_3\text{SiR}^2$, particularly where R^2 is methyl, $(\text{CH}_3\text{O})_3\text{SiCH}=\text{CH}_2$, $(\text{CH}_3)_3\text{SiCH}_2\text{CH}=\text{CH}_2$, $(\text{CH}_3\text{O})_3\text{SiCH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{OCH}_2\text{CHOCH}_2$, $(\text{CH}_3\text{O})_3\text{SiR}^2\text{N}(\text{R}^4)_y\text{H}_{2-y}$, $(\text{CH}_3\text{O})_3\text{SiR}^3\text{N}^{(+)}(\text{R}^4)_y\text{H}_{3-y}\text{X}^{(-)}$, $(\text{CH}_3\text{O})_3\text{SiR}^3\text{NHR}^3\text{N}(\text{R}^4)_y\text{H}_{2-y}$, $(\text{CH}_3\text{O})_3\text{SiR}^3\text{NHR}^3\text{N}(\text{R}^4)_y\text{H}_{3-y}\text{X}^{(-)}$,



where R^3 is propylene and of the nitrogen-functional organosilanes, the most preferred are 3-(trimethoxysilyl)-propyldimethyloctadecyl ammonium chloride having the formula



and 3-(trimethoxysilyl)propylmethyldi(decyl)ammonium chloride which has the formula



Preferably the organosilane is present in the aqueous solution in an amount of from 0.001% to 5% by weight of the aqueous solution, more preferably from 0.01% to 2% by weight of the aqueous solution and even more preferably from 0.05% to 0.5% of weight of the aqueous solution.

Alkylsaccharides are well known in the art. They are sugar derivatives in which the hydroxyl group attached to carbon 1 is substituted by an alkyl group. Alkylsaccharides describe compounds whatever the constituent sugar whereas alkyl glucosides describe compounds which contain glucose as the sugar.

A typical alkylsaccharide surface active agent which can be used in the present invention is that represented by following formula III



wherein R_{10} is a linear or branched alkyl, alkenyl or alkylphenyl group having 6-18 carbon atoms, R_{12} is an alkylene group having 6-18 carbon atoms, R_{12} is an alkylene group having 2-4 carbon atoms, G is a reduced saccharide residue having 5-6 carbon atoms, t is a value of 0-10, and p is a value of 1-10.

Among alkylsaccharides represented by formula III, those having an alkyl group of C_{6-18} , especially of C_{8-14} , more especially C_{8-10} for R_{10} such as octyl, decyl or lauryl are preferable. t in formula III which indicates the condensation degree of alkyleneoxide, is a value of 0-10, preferably 0-4, and most preferably 0. G in formula III, which is the basic unit of the hydrophilic portion of the alkylsaccharide, is a reduced saccharide residue having 5-6 carbon atoms. Glucose, galactose and fructose are preferable reduced saccharide residues. The average polymerization degree of saccharide indicated by p in formula III is 1-10, and preferably 1-4.

Alkylsaccharides are more easily biodegradable than other known stabilizers.

Preferably the alkylsaccharide is present in an amount of from 0.001 to 5 wt.% of the aqueous solution, more preferably 0.1-3 wt.% of the aqueous solution, even more preferably 0.6 to 2.5 wt.% of the aqueous solution.

Optionally said alkyl saccharide can be present in combination with a nonionic surfactant.

Suitable nonionic surfactants can be alkoxyated alcohol nonionic surfactants which can be readily made by condensation processes. A great variety of such alkoxyated alcohols especially ethoxyated and/or propoxyated alcohols are also conveniently commercially available. Surfactants catalogues are available which list a number of surfactants, including nonionics.

5 Preferred alkoxyated alcohols are nonionic surfactants according to the formula $R_{15}O(E)_e(P)_kH$ where R_{15} is a hydrocarbon chain of from 2 to 24 carbon atoms, E is ethylene oxide and P is propylene oxide, and e and k which represent the average degree of respectively ethoxylation and propoxylation, are of from 0 to 24. The hydrophobic moiety of the nonionic compound can be a primary or secondary, straight or branched alcohol having from 8 to 24
10 carbon atoms are more preferably 7-9 carbon atoms. More preferred nonionic surfactants for use in the compositions according to the invention are the condensation products of ethylene oxide with alcohols having a straight alkyl chain, having from 6 to 22 carbon atoms, wherein the degree of ethoxylation is from 1 to 15, preferably from 5 to 12. Yet more preferred nonionic surfactants for use in the composition according to the subject invention are the condensation products of 4
15 moles of ethylene oxide with 1 mole of straight-chain C_7-C_9 alkyl alcohol, i.e. nonionic surfactants according to the above formula where R_{15} is a straight-chain C_7-C_9 alkyl group; where p is zero and where e is four.

Preferably the nonionic surfactant is present in an amount of 0.001 to 2 wt.% of the aqueous solution, more preferably in an amount of 0.5 to 1.0 wt.% of the aqueous solution.

20 The ratio of the alkyl saccharide to the nonionic surfactant is most preferably 1:0.7.

In a particular preferred embodiment of the subject invention a synergistically stabilizing effect is achieved with a combination of the said alkyl saccharide and said nonionic surfactant.

Optionally, from 0.1 to 25% by weight of the total aqueous solution can be water soluble solvents such as butyl carbitol, dipropylene glycol monomethylether, propylene glycol, carbitol,
25 methoxypropanol, glycerine, isopropanol and ethanol. Preferably, methanol is avoided, although the methanol present in commercially available solutions of quaternary ammonium functional organosilanes is well tolerated by the aqueous solutions prepared by the method of the present invention.

Optionally, other ingredients which are compatible with the water soluble organosilanes
30 and surfactants may be included such as from 0.1% to 5% based upon the total weight of aqueous solution of a thickening agent such as hydroxyethyl cellulose, xanthan gum, or conventional thickening agent. Particulate additives such as silica and other high surface area

particles are to be avoided since the organosilane may deposit on such particles and thus remove it from the aqueous solutions. Similarly conventional additives such as perfumes, dyes, buffering agents, water soluble metal salts, detergent builders, chelating agents such as EDTA and salts thereof, can be included in the aqueous solutions of the present invention provided that they are compatible with the other ingredients present.

Organo/fluoro-organosilane solutions should preferably be freshly prepared before use in the methods and compositions of the subject invention to prevent loss of activity. The pH of the solutions of the subject invention can be adjusted across a wide range for example from about pH 1 to pH 13-5. However a pH range of 2-10 is preferred and a pH range of 2-5.5 is more preferred.

The pH of the aqueous solution can be adjusted in the appropriate range using an appropriate organic or inorganic acid such as citric acid, acetic acid, hydrochloric acid, phosphoric acid or sorbic acid or an appropriate organic or inorganic base such as sodium hydroxide, ammonium hydroxide dimethyl amine and ethanol amine.

The advantage of the compositions and methods of the present invention is that the aqueous solutions of the water-soluble organosilanes are stable under a much wider range of pH than is presently known in the art. For example, the art teaches that aqueous solutions of alkyl silanes can be brought to a pH of 3.5 to 5.0 using acetic acid, preferably to pH 3.5, but the solutions are said to form insoluble products which render the solutions hazy at which time the solutions should be discarded. Aqueous solutions made according to the present invention have a much longer useful life.

Some exemplary compositions according to the subject invention are now provided.

EXAMPLE 1

The following hard surface cleaning composition was prepared.

	<u>Raw Material</u>	<u>%Wt./Wt.</u>
5	Water	83.480
	Lactic Acid, 80%	7.480
	Urea	2.000
	Dipropylene Glycol Methyl Ether	4.050
	Alkylsaccharide (Glucopon® 215 CS UP) ¹	
10	60% solution	2.500
	3(trimethoxysilyl)-propyl-dimethyloctadecyl-ammonium chloride at 72% activities level in methanol diluted to 60% activity level (Dow Corning® 5772)	0.240
	Fragrance	0.250
15		<u>100.000</u>

EXAMPLE 2

20

The following hard surface cleaning composition was prepared:

	<u>Raw Material</u>	<u>%Wt./Wt.</u>
25	Water	83.480
	Lactic Acid, 80%	7.480
	Urea	2.000
	Dipropylene Glycol Methyl Ether	4.050
	Alkylsaccharide (Glucopon® 215 CS UP) ¹	
30	60% solution	2.500
	1-octanesulfonamide N-ethyl 1,1,2,2,3,3,4,4,5,5,6,6,7,7, 8,8,8, Heptadeca-fluoro trimethoxysilane	
	60% solution (3M)	0.240
	Fragrance	0.250
35		<u>100.000</u>

EXAMPLE 3

The following hard surface cleaning composition was prepared:

5

Raw Material**%Wt./Wt.**

Water

To balance

Lactic Acid, 80%

7.480

10

Urea

2.000

Dipropylene Glycol Methyl Ether

4.050

Alkylsaccharide used in Example 1

1.130

Ethoxylated alcohol (Dehydol®)²

0.870

Organosilane as used in Example 1

0.240

15

100.000**EXAMPLE 4**

20

The following hard surface cleaning composition was prepared:

Raw Material**%Wt./Wt.**

25

Water

To balance

Lactic Acid, 80%

7.480

Urea

2.000

Dipropylene Glycol Methyl Ether

4.050

Alkylsaccharide used in Example 1

1.130

30

Ethoxylated alcohol (Dehydol®)²

0.870

Fluoroorganosilane as used in Example 2

0.240

100.000

35

Footnotes to Examples 1-4

1. Gluconpon® 215 CS UP is available from Henkel Organics.

40

2. Dehydol® is also available from Henkel Organics.

The solutions of Examples 1-4 were tested for storage stability. The results are shown in Table I below. "C" shows that the solution was clear and non-hazy after the storage.

TABLE 1

Composition of Example	Condition of solution after storage at 20°C for six weeks	Condition of solution after storage at 40°C for six weeks
1	C	C
2	C	C
3	C	C
4	C	C

WHAT WE CLAIM:

1. A stable aqueous solution comprising a saccharide selected from an alkylsaccharide and an alkenyl-saccharide and an organosilane, wherein said organosilane has at least one hydrolyzable group.

2. An aqueous solution according to Claim 1 wherein the organosilane is a fluoroorganosilane.

3. An aqueous solution according to any preceding claim wherein the organosilane has formula I



wherein each

A is -OH or a hydrolysable group,

B is an alkyl group of from 1 to 4 carbon atoms,

x has a value of 0, 1 or 2, and

D is a hydrocarbon group of from 1 to 4 carbon atoms, a fluoro substituted (otherwise substituted or unsubstituted) hydrocarbon group, phenyl, or a nonionic or cationic, substituted-hydrocarbon group containing at least one oxygen or nitrogen group or salts of such substituted-hydrocarbon groups.

4. An aqueous solution according to any preceding claim wherein the saccharide has formula (III)



wherein:

R_{10} is a linear or branched alkyl, alkenyl or alkyl-phenyl group having 6-18 carbon atoms;

R_{12} is an alkylene group having 2-4 carbon atoms;

G is a reduced saccharide residue having 5-6 carbon atoms;

t is 0-10;

p is 1-10, preferably 1-4.

5. A storage stable aqueous solution according to any preceding claim.

6. An aqueous solution according to preceding claim 5 wherein said solution is storage stable at 20°C for 6 months, preferably for one year.

5 7. An aqueous solution according to any preceding claim wherein the silane is present in an amount of from 0.001% to 5% by weight based on the total weight of the solution.

8. An aqueous solution according to any preceding claim wherein the saccharide is present in an amount of from 0.001% to 5% by weight based on the total weight of the solution.

10 9. An aqueous solution according to any preceding claim wherein the saccharide is present in an amount of from 0.001% to 5% by weight based on the total weight of the solution.

10. An aqueous solution according to any preceding claim wherein said solution also
15 comprises a nonionic surfactant.

11. An aqueous solution according to any preceding claim which has pH in the range 2.0-5.5.

12. A detergent composition according to any preceding claim.

20 13. A detergent composition according to preceding claim 12, which is a hard surface cleaning detergent composition.

14. A detergent composition according to either preceding claim 12 or preceding claim 13,
25 optionally further comprising one or more of the following ingredients: acids, hydrotopes, bactericides, germicides, preservatives, quaternaries, solvents, fragrances, thickeners, and dyes.

15. Use of the alkylsaccharide as defined in any preceding claim in a method for improving the storage stability of the compositions according to any preceding claim.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No
PC1/US 97/02879A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
IPC 6 C11D3/16 C11D1/66

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)
IPC 6 C11D

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
Y	WO 92 14810 A (JOHNSON & SON INC S C) 3 September 1992 see page 17, line 12 - page 18, line 22; claims 1,3,4,6-8,12,13; examples 1-86 ---	1-15
Y	US 4 005 025 A (KINSTEDT GEORGE CARL) 25 January 1977 see column 19, line 57 - column 21, line 26; claims 1-8,12-16,18,19; examples I-V ---	1-15
Y	EP 0 444 267 A (HUELS CHEMISCHE WERKE AG) 4 September 1991 see the entire document -----	1-15

☐ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.

* Special categories of cited documents:

- *A* document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
- *E* earlier document but published on or after the international filing date
- *L* document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)
- *O* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
- *P* document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

- *T* later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
- *X* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
- *Y* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.
- *&* document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

18 June 1997

Date of mailing of the international search report

0 2. 07. 97

Name and mailing address of the ISA

European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2
NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk
Tel. (+ 31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl,
Fax (+ 31-70) 340-3016

Authorized officer

Ainscow, J

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International Application No

PC1/US 97/02879

Patent document cited in search report	Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
WO 9214810 A	03-09-92	AU 655621 B	05-01-95
		AU 9144691 A	15-09-92
		CA 2100670 A,C	16-08-92
		EP 0640122 A	01-03-95
		JP 6505036 T	09-06-94
		KR 9615974 B	25-11-96
		US 5411585 A	02-05-95

US 4005025 A	25-01-77	NONE	

EP 0444267 A	04-09-91	DE 4005959 A	29-08-91
